

REMARKS

Applicant has considered the April 2, 2008 Office Action, and the amendments above together with the comments that follow are presented in a bona fide effort to address all issues raised in that Action and thereby place this case in condition for allowance. Claims 1-12 were pending in this application. Claims 1-4 and 9-12 are allowed. In response to the Office Action dated April 2, 2008, claims 5-8 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer with Applicant preserving the right to pursue these claims in a continuation application. Entry of the present Amendment is respectfully solicited. It is believed that this response places this case in condition for allowance. Hence, prompt favorable reconsideration of this case is solicited.

Claims 5-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant respectfully submit that the rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claims 5-8.

Applicant notes the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance included on page 3 of the Office action. Entry of that Statement into the record should not be construed as any agreement with or acquiescence by Applicant in the reasoning stated by the Examiner. The Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be used to interpret the cited claims, particularly to the extent if any that the Statement of Reasons for Allowance may differ from the express language of the claims and/or the otherwise proper construction of those claims. It is respectfully submitted that the allowed claims should be entitled the broadest reasonable interpretation and broadest range of equivalents that are appropriate in light of the language of the claims and the supporting disclosure, without reference to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

It is believed that pending claims 1-4 and 9-12 are in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore respectfully requests an early and favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application. If there are any outstanding issues which might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's representative at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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